

## SENATE BILL No. 173

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 11-10-16.

**Synopsis:** DOC specialized vocational program. Requires the department of correction (department) to establish a specialized vocational program (program) to train minimum security inmates in trades such as truck driving, manufacturing, plumbing, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning. Requires the department to adopt rules governing: (1) admission to; and (2) operation of; the program. Requires the superintendent to appoint a director at each facility having a program. Requires the department to report annually to the legislative council concerning the operation of the program.

**Effective:** July 1, 2015.

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### Young R Michael

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January 6, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections & Criminal Law.

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First Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 173

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning corrections.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1       SECTION 1. IC 11-10-16 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2       AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3       JULY 1, 2015]:

4       **Chapter 16. Specialized Vocational Program**

5       **Sec. 1. (a) Before January 1, 2016, the department shall adopt**  
6       **rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish a specialized vocational program**  
7       **to train minimum security risk inmates in a trade that is capable**  
8       **of providing an inmate with employment paying a sustainable**  
9       **wage.**

10       **(b) The specialized vocational program may include training in:**

- 11           **(1) truck driving;**  
12           **(2) manufacturing;**  
13           **(3) plumbing; and**  
14           **(4) heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.**

15       **(c) An inmate may participate in a specialized vocational**  
16       **program only if the inmate is eligible to work outside a perimeter**



fence.

**Sec. 2. (a) The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to establish criteria for admission into a specialized vocational program.**

**(b) Rules adopted by the department under this section must provide the following:**

**(1) An inmate with less than twenty-four (24) months until the inmate's expected release date must be given preference for participation in the specialized vocational program.**

**(2) An inmate who has been disciplined for misconduct within the previous year is not eligible for participation in the specialized vocational program.**

**(3) An inmate who presents a security risk is not eligible for participation in the specialized vocational program.**

**(4) An inmate who is under the care of a physician is eligible for participation in the specialized vocational program if the physician determines that the inmate can meaningfully and safely participate in the program.**

**(c) Rules adopted by the department under this section may require an inmate to have successfully completed or be currently enrolled in other programs provided by the department, including:**

**(1) a drug addiction and alcoholism treatment program;**

**(2) an employment skills and vocational program;**

**(3) a personal responsibility program;**

**(4) a peer support program;**

**(5) a motivation program;**

**(6) a parenting program; and**

**(7) a program in preparation for a state of Indiana general educational development (GED) diploma.**

**(d) The department may adopt other rules under this section to ensure that inmates selected to participate in a specialized vocational program are those inmates who are most likely to benefit from the program.**

**Sec. 3. (a) The superintendent shall appoint a person to serve as director of the specialized vocational program. Each facility that has a specialized vocational program must have a separate director.**

**(b) The director shall do the following:**

**(1) Establish and oversee the day to day operations of the specialized vocational program.**

**(2) Recruit volunteers and businesses to provide instruction and training in:**



(A) the specialized vocational program; and

(B) any related certification program.

(3) Provide information requested by the superintendent regarding an inmate or a specialized vocational program.

(4) Determine the appropriate number of inmates in each specialized vocational program, considering the availability of:

(A) qualified staff; and

(B) appropriate facilities and equipment.

The director may remove one (1) or more inmates from a program if necessary to comply with this subdivision.

(5) Remove an inmate from a specialized vocational program at any time due to:

(A) misconduct;

(B) security issues;

(C) safety issues;

(D) health concerns; or

(E) lack of meaningful participation in the program.

(6) Carry out other duties concerning the specialized vocational program as directed by the superintendent.

Sec. 4. (a) An inmate who wishes to participate in a specialized vocational program must submit a written application to the director. The application must be on a form prescribed by the department.

(b) The director shall review each application and, not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of the application, issue a written decision to the inmate.

(c) The director shall determine eligibility in accordance with this chapter. In addition, the director may consider any other relevant information contained in the inmate's written application that may have a bearing on the inmate's ability to successfully complete the specialized vocational program, including the inmate's demonstrated interest in the program.

Sec. 5. (a) The department shall submit a report to the legislative council concerning the operation of the specialized vocational program by December 1 of each year, beginning December 1, 2016.

(b) The report described in subsection (a) must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(c) The report described in subsection (a) must contain the following information, as available:

(1) Statistics showing the number of inmates who:



- 1 (A) applied for admission to the specialized vocational
- 2 program;
- 3 (B) were accepted into the specialized vocational program;
- 4 (C) were not accepted into the specialized vocational
- 5 program due to:
- 6 (i) staffing, facility, equipment, or other constraints on
- 7 the number of inmates who could be admitted to the
- 8 program; or
- 9 (ii) not meeting the requirements of the program; and
- 10 (D) completed the specialized vocational program.
- 11 (2) An evaluation of the specialized vocational program
- 12 outcomes.
- 13 (3) Other relevant information as determined by the
- 14 superintendent.

